SEP 2 1 1998 5:

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INSTHE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

101/98

In re A	Application of:	§	Group Art Unit: 1721 —
	Chesser, et al.	§	
		§	
Serial No.: 08/869,109		§	
		§	
Filed: June 4, 1997		§	Examiner: C. H. Kelly
		§	
For:	Controlled Hydration of Starch	§	
	in High Density Brine Dispersion	§	Atty. Docket: B154-9245-US

RESPONSE TO FIRST OFFICE ACTION

Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

This paper is filed in response to the first office action mailed June 22, 1998.

AMENDMENTS

In the Specification

Page 10, line 18, before the word "Note," please delete "[" and insert therefor -- (--.

Page 10, line 21, after the word "satisfactory." Please delete "]" and insert therefor --)--.

In the Claims

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Once amended) A method for producing a precursor polymer dispersion for addition to a brine for use in drilling and completion operations comprising: